



esprit orchestra 97.98

Alex Pauk music director and conductor

15th
anniversary
season



Esprit's 15th Anniversary Season is rich in new musical connections, celebrations and the finest in new compositions – including five world premieres. Our concert in *The Body Electric* international guitar festival bridges musical worlds and cuts across cultural barriers. Celebrating a new vision of music, this concert, through pieces composed by guitarists, fuses styles associated with the most prevalent instrument in the world today – the electric guitar – with forms and practices of today's contemporary orchestra.

music director's message



In three of our concerts we are presenting superb soloists who have made significant contributions to our concerts in past seasons including Robert Aitken, Rivka Golani and Tim Brady. In addition, our special focus on Dutch composer Guus Janssen in March includes the appearance of Amsterdam's jazz trio LOOS as guest artists.

At our 15th Anniversary Concert in November we'll launch Esprit's 4th CD on CBC Records (orchestral music by Colin McPhee) and announce plans for Esprit's involvement in a new Rhombus Media film about McPhee. The concert, part of *Made in Canada*, also pays tribute to The Canada Council in its 40th year of arts support.

As always, the most important aspect of Esprit's activity is the performance of brand new compositions, including music by two of Canada's most venerable composers – R. Murray Schafer and Gilles Tremblay – as well as by emerging stars.

Once again our *Toward a Living Art* Education Programme offers students and the general public the opportunity to meet composers and performers through attending talks and demonstrations or by participating in workshops. Phone (416) 599-7880 for updates.

We proudly welcome you to join us in celebrating fifteen years of musical exploration and adventure. Our intention this season is to ensure a vital, challenging and enlightening experience for audiences from the past as well as for inquisitive, open-minded new listeners.

Alex Pauk

Pre-Concert Talks

Throughout the season, Esprit concerts will be preceded by a talk featuring composers and special guests who can provide unique and personal insights into the music being heard at each concert. All pre-concert talks begin at 7:15 p.m. on the night of the concert and are included in the price of a concert ticket.

Some of the very special guest speakers you will hear include:

the body electric

sunday, october 5, 1997

TIM BRADY

Montreal composer, guitarist and organizer of *The Body Electric* guitar festival.

PAUL DOLDEN

Vancouver composer.

RON FORD

American composer
(living and working in The Netherlands).

spectra

monday, november 3, 1997

GILLES TREMBLAY

Quebec composer. Tremblay's flute concerto *Traversée* will be premiered on this concert.

ROBERT AITKEN

Composer and renowned flutist. Aitken performs the world premiere of Tremblay's *Traversée* and has one of his own works performed.

RIVKA GOLANI

World-renowned violist. Golani performs a work written especially for her by one of Japan's finest composers, Joji Yuasa.

LARRY WEINSTEIN

Film maker and co-founder of Rhombus Media Inc.
Weinstein is working on a new film about the life and music of composer Colin McPhee.

un, deux, beaucoup

sunday, february 22, 1998

JEFFREY RYAN

Composer. Ryan's Esprit-commissioned work will be premiered on this concert.

ROGER BERGS

Composer. Bergs' Esprit-commissioned work will be premiered on this concert.

dutch treat

sunday, march 29, 1998

R. MURRAY SCHAFFER

Composer. Schaffer's major new viola concerto is premiered on this concert.

RIVKA GOLANI

Golani performs the world premiere of Schaffer's new viola concerto as well as the Canadian premiere of a work by German composer Bernd Alois Zimmermann.

GUUS JANSSEN

Dutch composer and jazz musician. In Toronto for the Canadian premieres of his works *Verstelwerk* and *Passevite*.

esprit gratefully acknowledges the following for their support of the 1997/98 season.

(Esprit also thanks all of those generous supporters not known in advance of printing this brochure)

We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts which last year invested \$17.8 million in music throughout Canada.



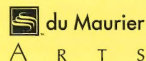
THE CANADA COUNCIL
FOR THE ARTS
SINCE 1957

LE CONSEIL DES ARTS
DU CANADA
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Nous remercions de son soutien le Conseil des Arts du Canada, qui a investi 17,8 millions de dollars l'an dernier dans la musique à travers le Canada.



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**The M.M. Webb
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The Body Electric is presented as part of



Spectra is presented as part of



esprit orchestra profile

Esprit is Canada's only full-sized orchestra uniquely devoted to commissioning and performing contemporary orchestral music by Canadian composers. In its fifteen-year history, Esprit has commissioned fifty new Canadian works, premiering them along with other new works commissioned by leading Canadian ensembles and soloists.

Since 1983 Esprit has performed almost 200 individual works and, as part of Esprit's commitment to the advancement of new orchestral music for today's and future audiences, has performed many of these works more than once – so they become part of a living musical fabric.

Esprit also has a tradition of setting Canadian music within an international context and has premiered dozens of new works by leading international composers for Canadian audiences.

Each year Esprit presents a subscription series and performs other special concerts, often joined by world-renowned guest soloists. Esprit's music can also be heard broadcast on such CBC Stereo and CBC Radio programmes as *Two New Hours*, *Encore*, *ONSTAGE* and *Radio Concert Hall*, as well as in several films by Canada's internationally-acclaimed Rhombus Media Inc.

This year Esprit will release its 4th compact disc of all-Canadian music on CBC Record's SM5000 label. The disc features four orchestral works by Colin McPhee – never before collected onto one disc. (Some have never been recorded at all.) Last year Esprit's *Music for Heaven and Earth* (SMCD5154), featuring McPhee's *Nocturne* along with music by Alexina Louie, Harry Freedman and Robert Aitken, was given a 5-star rating by *BBC Music Magazine*.

For information about Esprit, please contact our office at (416) 599-7880.

Toward a Living Art **sponsor-a-student**

Each year Esprit provides access to a full season of its concerts to students from the Greater Metro area by inviting our subscribers to purchase a student subscription along with their own. At the beginning of each season we pass these student subscriptions on to schools that have taken part in Esprit's educational activities. If you would like to donate a season of Esprit concerts to a student, please complete the Sponsor-a-Student (*Toward a Living Art*) section on this form.

ticket information[†]

Subscriptions*

(4-concert series. Please see the attached subscription order form for details.)

\$80

\$40 Student/Senior

Single Tickets

\$26

\$12.50 Student/Senior

Group Rates*

(10 or more people)

\$13

\$ 8 Student/Senior

GST is now included in all prices.

Esprit is pleased to offer you a 7% saving by keeping our tickets at last year's pre-gst prices.

Single and Group Rate Tickets go on sale September 15 at the St. Lawrence Centre box office, 27 Front Street East, (416) 366-7723.

Esprit Orchestra participates in the "Cheap Seats" new music pass for students. Please contact Esprit for details (416) 599-7880.

*Handling charges will be added to subscription, telephone and group sales.

subscription order form esprit orchestra 97.98

mail this form (or take in person to):

St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts

Subscription Office (Esprit)

27 Front Street East

Toronto, Ont. M5E 1B4

or call: (416) 366-7723 (credit card purchases by telephone)

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ADDRESS

CITY / TOWN

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- ☐ new subscription
- ☐ renewal (to keep your seat from last year,
renewals must be received by September 2)
- ☐ wheelchair seating required

☐ cheque enclosed (payable to Esprit Orchestra)

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all orders please specify:

☐ orchestra

☐ balcony

adult

student / senior

(ID required for each
subscription: please
provide a photocopy)

sponsor-a-student
(Toward a Living Art)

NUMBER OF SUBSCRIPTIONS	SUBSCRIPTION PRICE	TOTAL
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	\$80	
	\$40	
	\$40	

subscription total

handling charge (\$5 per seat to a maximum of \$15)

1 subscription of 4 concerts = \$5

2 subscriptions of 4 concerts = \$10

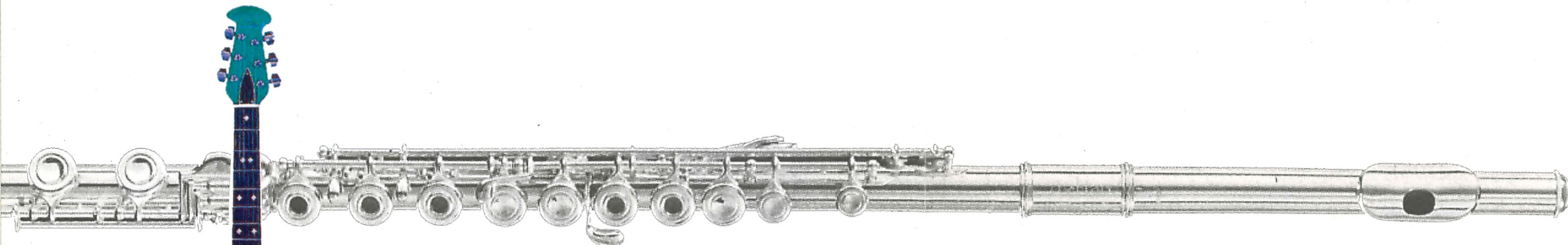
3 or more subscriptions of 4 concerts = \$15

payment total

Thank you for your subscription order. Buying a subscription is an important way to show support for Esprit. We also count on donations from individuals like you. If you would like to make a donation to Esprit, a tax receipt will be sent to you. Esprit is a registered charity #0714998-22.

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Toward a Living Art Sponsor-a-Student Each year Esprit provides access to a full season of its concerts to students from the Greater Metro area by inviting our subscribers to purchase a student subscription along with their own. At the beginning of each season we pass these student subscriptions on to schools that have taken part in Esprit's educational activities. If you would like to donate a season of Esprit concerts to a student, please complete the Sponsor-a-Student (Toward a Living Art) section on this form.



the body electric sunday, october 5, 1997

presented in collaboration with *The Body Electric*
International Guitar Festival

8:00 p.m.

7:15 p.m. pre-concert talk

Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre

presented by  du Maurier
A R T S

guest artist

TIM BRADY (Canada), electric guitar

composers

TIM BRADY (Canada)

The Body Electric

for electric guitar and orchestra, 1997 world premiere*

PAUL DOLDEN (Canada)

The Heart Tears Itself Apart With The Power Of Its Own Muscles.

Resonance #3, for strings and tape, 1994 (revised 1997)

GLENN BRANCA (United States)

Free Form

1989 Canadian premiere

RON FORD (United States/Holland)

Salome Fast

for ensemble and reciting voice, 1996 Canadian premiere

JIMI HENDRIX (United States)

Purple Haze

1967 (arr. Steve Riffkin, 1987)

MARIUS CONSTANT (France)

theme from *The Twilight Zone*

for two electric guitars and orchestra, 1960

Esprit's season opener serves as the grand finale of *The Body Electric* – an international festival of music performed and/or written by electric guitarists. Tim Brady, mastermind and driving force behind the festival, is featured as soloist in his own composition for guitar and orchestra, also titled *The Body Electric*.

Other works on the programme also feature orchestral sounds combined with electroacoustic elements, including Dutch/American composer Ron Ford's *Salome Fast* and Paul Dolden's revised version of *The Heart Tears Itself Apart With The Power Of Its Own Muscles. Resonance #3*. The balance of the programme is an orchestral work composed by one of the world's most famous rock guitarists – Glenn Branca.

*commissioned by and made possible through
the financial assistance of CBC Stereo

spectra monday, november 3, 1997

Esprit's 15th Anniversary Concert Celebration and Compact Disc Launch

8:00 p.m.

7:15 p.m. pre-concert talk

POST-CONCERT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre

dedicated to *The Canada Council for the Arts*
celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year

presented as part of *Made in Canada*

guest artists

RIVKA GOLANI (Canada), viola

ROBERT AITKEN (Canada), flute

composers

ROBERT AITKEN (Canada)

Spectra

for four chamber groups, 1968

GILLES TREMBLAY (Canada)

Traversée

concerto for flute and orchestra, 1996 world premiere

JOJI YUASA (Japan)

Revealed Time

for viola and orchestra, 1986 Canadian premiere

COLIN MCPHEE (Canada)

Tabuh-Tabuhan

toccata for two pianos and orchestra, 1936

On this occasion, Esprit celebrates its 15th Anniversary, launches its new CBC Records CD of orchestral music by Colin McPhee and pays tribute to The Canada Council's forty years of supporting Canadian music. The concert offers the rare opportunity to hear the premiere of a work by one of Quebec's most important composers, Gilles Tremblay. Two of Canada's most outstanding and dynamic soloists – Rivka Golani and Robert Aitken – will perform important concerti, written especially for them. Aitken is also featured as a composer.

The evening will include, for the entire audience, a post-concert 15th Anniversary celebration.



un, deux, beaucoup sunday, february 22, 1998

8:00 p.m.

7:15 p.m. pre-concert talk

Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre

guest artists

ELIZABETH TURNBULL (Canada), mezzo-soprano

FUJIKO IMAJISHI (Canada), violin

composers

JEFFREY RYAN (Canada)

eternal silence...infinite spaces

1997 world premiere*

ROGER BERGS (Canada)

Soundbites

1997 world premiere**

ERIC MORIN (Canada)

un, deux, beaucoup

1994

ANA SOKOLOVIC (Canada)

Pesma

for mezzo-soprano and chamber orchestra, 1996

CHRIS PAUL HARMAN (Canada)

Violin Concerto

1996

This concert focusses on music by Canada's younger generation of composers and highlights Esprit's commissioning programme in the works of Jeffrey Ryan and Roger Bergs. *Un, deux, beaucoup* as a concert truly reflects the vitality and diversity of trends in Canadian music and assures us that the future of our musical culture is in good hands.

* commissioned by Esprit and made possible through the financial assistance of the *Laidlaw Foundation*

** commissioned by Esprit and made possible through the financial assistance of *The Canada Council for the Arts*



dutch treat sunday, march 29, 1998

8:00 p.m.

7:15 pre-concert talk

Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre

presented by  RHÔNE-POULENC

guest artists

RIVKA GOLANI (Canada), viola

LOOS (Holland)

PETER VAN BERGEN, tenor saxophone

GERARD BOUWHUIS, piano

PAUL KOEK, percussion

composers

R. MURRAY SCHAFER (Canada)

Concerto for Viola and Orchestra

1997 world premiere*

GUUS JANSSEN (Holland)

Verstelwerk

1996 Canadian premiere

GUUS JANSSEN (Holland)

Passevite

1994 Canadian premiere

BERND ALOIS ZIMMERMANN (Germany)

Antiphonen

for viola and 25 instrumentalists, 1962 Canadian premiere

* commissioned jointly by Esprit and *CBC Stereo* and made possible through the financial assistance of *CBC Stereo*, *The Canada Council for the Arts* and the *Ontario Arts Council*

Esprit's season finale provides a powerful combination of great composers and performers. A new viola concerto by R. Murray Schafer performed by Rivka Golani is sure to be the highlight of musical activity in Toronto this season. Golani further demonstrates her stature as the world-champion of contemporary viola music in a performance of Zimmermann's *Antiphonen*. A special treat is in store through the appearance of musical guests from the Netherlands. Composer Guus Janssen will have his jazz-influenced music performed by Amsterdam's jazz trio LOOS in combination with Esprit. This part of the programme reflects Esprit's intention to develop ongoing links with the vibrant Dutch music scene.

